

Gen. M. S. Littlefield, of Raleigh, N. C., Gen. Abbott, of Newborn, N. C., and other strangers are also in the city.—Tallahassee Florida.

Florida is about to receive several millions of dollars from Alabama, the price paid upon by strangers and non-tax payers for certain counties of West Florida to be ceded to Alabama.

Alas! Poor Florida!

Learn a Trade.

Of 12,496 prisoners in the penitentiaries of thirty States in 1897, according to the report of the Prison Association, not more than 97 per cent. more than three-quarters had not learned a trade.

The above paragraph furnishes a text, says the Macon Journal, from which a most wholesome sermon can be preached. It is not to be concluded, of course, that the per cent. alluded to was drawn from the ranks of the "learned professions," as they are called.

The real point in the statement is that work keeps a man's brain and hands from mischief, and that if he has learned a trade he is not only safe, so far as temptation is concerned, but always has at his command a refuge against want and idleness—those fruitful sources of crime.—With a good trade, in this growing country where skilled labor of all kinds commands such fair wages, bread and clothing for himself and family are secure for mechanics of every description. If his taste and enterprise lead him into some other calling where success is not won, he has the supreme satisfaction of knowing that in such an event, he still has a capital to draw upon of which nothing but Providence can deprive him.

It has always been a mystery to us why there are not more young men learning trades in our country, especially since the war. Broken down, penniless, as our people found themselves at the close of the terrible struggle, it would seem an abandonment of the silly policy of making doctors and lawyers of their sons, was specially indicated, not only by past experience, but necessity. Never was an occasion more auspicious for the change. But what was seen? Parents rushing their children off to college, without the least reference to their fitness to appreciate and benefit by its training. And this was, and still is often done at great pecuniary inconvenience. Paterfamilias stints and starves at home, and the rest of the family are put on short rations, in order that young hopeful may idle away his time at college and come home an A. D. We have known and know many boys at college who have no more business there than so many idiots. They can't or won't learn, and after being literally dragged through the course, are turned out with diplomas, to be manufactured into so-called lawyers and doctors. They have health and strength, though, and the test might have developed some aptitude for certain mechanical pursuits. They would not have made master builders, smiths or machinists, but might have earned a living, and made themselves useful members of society as subordinates in these pursuits.

We don't propose, of course, to shut up schools and colleges, but we do think it would be best for all concerned to inquire first before trying to give a boy a learned education, to find out whether he is fit to, or can receive it. There will be lawyers, doctors, and ministers while the world endures, we suppose, but there is no reason why they should be recruited indiscriminately from the graduating classes of our colleges, without the slightest reference to their fitness. If a boy goes to college and won't or can't get on with his studies, clearly college is not the place for him. He ought to be somewhere else. If he has any mechanical aptitude at all, find a trade for him and bid him stick to it. In the various branches of mechanical industry there is always room for recruits. The recruit may not be above respectable mechanic, but still he has his place, and his place to himself and the country, under the control of others. It is not necessary for every mechanic to be a "boss," by any means, in order that he should be useful and earn a respectable living. Mediocre lawyers and doctors, though, are worse than useless.

We have witnessed many changes since the war, but this, one of the most needed, seems long in coming. That it is particularly demanded now, none will dispute.—There is wisdom in it; there is wealth in it. There is the germ of industrial independence in it, and last, but by no means least, there is, in its success, the destruction of the false and pernicious ideas that labor degrades instead of ennobling. Away with it, then. Let Southern colleges and the learned professions flourish, but let Southern workshops be filled with Southern youths, and Southern progress illustrated by the sturdy toil of the best blood of the land.

The Building Association.

We are glad to hear that the Building Association now in process of organization is likely to amount to something more than a momentary zeal in the matter, and that it is more than probable that shares enough will be taken to place it upon a firm foundation. Too little stability has been shown in former attempts looking to the formation of such an organization, and we sincerely trust a renewed damp will not be thrown upon so praiseworthy an undertaking by another failure.

The necessities of our mechanics and laboring classes, their value as citizens, the important bearing their well-being has upon every interest of the community, make it imperative that all should lend a helping hand in objects looking to their welfare. In the formation of a Building Association donations are not asked, but business men and property owners are only invited into a mutual corporation, from which most liberal interest must be realized upon all investments, and at the same time employment is given to our industrial classes. They become themselves property owners, by which means their interest in the community becomes greater, and

their value as citizens increased. We fear those most immediately interested in this subject will be unable alone to place it upon such a foundation as to master all the difficulties attendant upon the organization of such an Association. With the view of interesting all those who have the welfare of the city at heart, we trust that they will attend the meeting on Thursday evening, and learn for themselves something of the real objects and practical workings of the organization.

We hope those who may be placed in charge of this work, for like all new undertakings the brunt of the battle must fall upon a few individuals, will not undertake too much, but govern it in the most economical and practical manner. Let it be a Building Association in name as well as fact, and the primary object be to provide cheap and comfortable homes for those of its members in need of them. Under the auspices of the Association a number of homes could be built cheaply and rapidly by members of the Association, and could be paid for by instalments, in place of rents under such regulations as may be adopted. But this is hardly the time or place to discuss matters of detail. Let us all unite in the organization of the Building Association, and we have no doubt that it will prove of great benefit to the entire community.

Charleston and Savannah.

Business has recently made it necessary for us to pay these two cities a hurried visit. It would not be just either to Charleston or Savannah to judge of their business at this dull season of the year, especially when a chronic dullness seems to have seized upon the entire South. We are satisfied that there is less doing in all our cities and towns at present than at any previous time since the war.

In Charleston, except in the shipment and traffic of fruit and vegetables, there is little or nothing going on which comes under the notice of an uninitiated observer. The business men seem lying back waiting for the incoming crops, of which there is throughout South Carolina and Georgia a most hopeful and abundant prospect. Many residents are indeed leaving the city, seeking cooler and healthier resorts in their own mountains or at their own Springs, or adding to the wealth and power of the North at the expense of Southern independence and prosperity, by spending their money and time at Northern resorts of pleasure and fashion. Any way they are seeking relaxation after months of long and laborious work, and laying up a supply of energy and health for the business campaign before them.

It would be unjust in speaking of Charleston not to notice with commendation that most excellent house, the Charleston Hotel, which is certainly one of the best kept in the South.

Our limited stay prevented us from visiting the prominent features of interest and beauty in the city and harbor, except the beautiful park at the Battery, at which, during the present season each evening, save Sunday, Charleston, especially young Charleston, resorts, seeking its delightful shade and sea-breeze.

We had the pleasure of meeting our friends of the News, and several others, among them cherished brothers-in-arms, by whom we were kindly received.

While the business circles of Savannah seem to have taken a holiday, we noticed considerable improvements going on. Especially is the city rapidly extending its limits. In the outskirts, at every land, large numbers of residences are being erected, and the general appearance of Savannah indicates an assured prosperity. We are satisfied that it must become one of the most important and flourishing seaports in the South. At present its steamers go laden with fruit and vegetables. Indeed, this business is carried on to a greater extent there than at Charleston. Besides the products of neighboring gardens and farms, the Florida crop is sent there for shipment to New York and Baltimore. The steamer City Point, on which we took passage to Charleston, must have transferred to the New York steamer nearly a thousand watermelons alone. It is very pleasant to feast on young corn, tomatoes and watermelons in the middle of June, as we did in Savannah.

We are not satisfied that the trucking business has proved very successful. On the contrary we believe from what we learned that as a general thing no money has been made at it, and we doubt very much if Florida, Savannah and even Charleston is too remote from market to pursue this business with much success.

Here again, as well as in Charleston, we were kindly received by our friends, and we are under obligations to some for most pleasant hospitalities.

Throughout our travels we were favorably struck with the appearance of the farms and the promise of the crops.—The dullness which pervades the towns and cities does not go beyond their limits. In the country all is life and industry and hope. The farms look in good order and the crops well cultivated. In reply to our repeated enquiries to such farmers with whom we traveled and whom we accosted at the wayside stations we had the universal response of good prospects. There was a hopeful cheerfulness in their manner which carried conviction with their words. We are inclined to believe that more attention has been paid to raising food than has heretofore been the case.—We trust that no unforeseen misfortune may interfere to prevent a generous reward being given to their industry.

Taxes.

Our people are engaged now in listing their property for taxation. They will find their taxes most onerous in the present, and if the extravagances and corruptions of our State government continue, the amount to be paid will be greatly increased in the future.

We have heard of no complaints of the officials who have the tax lists in charge here, but, on the contrary, have heard them commended for their patience and justice. Yet others may not be so fortunate. Ignorant and corrupt men occupy official positions in many counties in the State, and the people may become victims

to their incompetency and injustice. They cannot, therefore, watch too closely the property required to be listed.

One error into which list takers are apt, even honestly, to fall into, is taxing the incomes derived from professions, trades and franchises, when the property from which the income is derived is itself taxed. This is in direct conflict with the express provision of the Constitution, and not authorized by the Revenue Act of the Legislature.

Section Third of Article Five of the Constitution reads as follows:

"Laws shall be passed taxing, by a uniform rule, all moneys, credits, investments in bonds, stocks, joint-stock companies or otherwise, and, also, all real and personal property, according to its true value in money. The General Assembly shall also tax trades, professions, franchises and incomes, provided that no income shall be taxed when the property from which the income is derived is taxed."

Section Two of Class two of the Revenue Act says: "On the net income and 'profits, other than that derived from property taxed * * * there shall be a 'tax of two and one-half per cent.'"

It will be well for list takers and tax payers to bear these extracts in mind, for otherwise much property or many incomes will be listed contrary to law.

"How to Make the Farm Pay."

"How to Make the Farm Pay," or the Farmers' Book of Practical Information, by C. W. Dickerman, C. L. Flint and others. Zeigler, McCurdy & Co., Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis.

We believe the book with the above title to be just the book the farmers need. They do not want long scientific discussions, but plain practical information such as fills this volume. How to make the Farm pay is just what our farmers want to know. If any one by long experience and careful experiments has really any information to offer the farmers want it. One of the authors of the above book was Secretary of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture for nearly twenty years, and every improvement upon old methods has been made the subject of careful inquiry. The other names we see in the preface are those of the best practical agricultural men of the country. The result is that we have a work with the latest and most reliable information upon every subject connected with farming. The different chapters of Drainage, Plowing, Manures, Implements, Grain, Grasses, Root Crops, Rotation of Crops, Horses, Cattle, Dairy Stock, Sheep, Swine and other Domestic Animals, Poultry, Bees, Fruit Culture, Grape Culture and Wine making, Small Fruits, Diseases and Insects, Farm Buildings, Market Gardening, and many other items. It has also a fine collection of Receipts for cooking, &c., and a chapter on the ordinary diseases of the family with plain and simple remedies. It is on the whole a most complete work and should be in every Farmer's House.

The book is handsome enough for the parlor table and durable enough for a generation. There are one hundred and forty-one fine illustrations, not mere pictures only, but instructive and useful to the cultivators of the soil. We understand that the agents who are canvassing in other sections are meeting with great success and we trust that the farmers in our own county will soon have a chance to secure this valuable work.

Mr. F. M. Williams, of this city, is the agent of this work for New Hanover county, and will call upon our farmers and others, who will have an opportunity of inspecting the work for themselves. We are satisfied that it is a work of great practical utility.

John Chinaman and the South.

Labor, reliable and steady labor, is the great problem in Southern prosperity.—Our present system of labor is deficient and defective, and a change is absolutely demanded for our well-being. The want of labor, a want not only in quantity but quality, compels millions of acres to be idle, and keeps forests standing which should give place to the cultivated fields. This section is languishing for the want of industry and thrift on the part of its laborers.

There are two requisites in the laborer, without which there can be neither profit nor sympathy between the employer and the employee. Labor must be quiet, obedient, industrious and faithful. Without these qualities there can be no advantageous relationship between him and the property owner and consequently no prosperity to the country.

In the second place there must be a community of sympathy and interest between the laborer and employer. Without this the ignorance and prejudices of the one could and would be used to the disadvantage of the other. If these links do not bind them together, the employer will find that he is but nurturing the germs of his future destruction. It is easy to prejudice labor against capital, although there should be the utmost friendship and attachment between them, and, indeed, without it there can be no permanent prosperity. There is a fatal error in any government which has a tendency to divide capital and labor into antagonistic classes. The triumph of either one or the other will result fatally to the welfare of the country.

It is an easy question to answer whether the present system of labor in the South fills these simple and necessary requisites. For four or five years our people have tried the negro with all the patience and forbearance demanded by former relationship and by their urgent necessities. We are satisfied that but few will dissent when we say that these trials have not been attended with success. Our people are not satisfied with their laborers, and they are continually and earnestly casting about them for the best and most available substitute. It is a grave question and requires serious reflection. That a change will be made, must be made, does not admit of a doubt. Even if we did not desire it, and under other circumstances we would not, the increasing worthlessness and unreliability of the negro would force it upon us.

From what we can learn of the Chinaman as a laborer on the Pacific coast, we are led to believe that he is the "coming man" to work out this unsolved problem of Southern labor. The completion of the Pacific Railroad and the great numbers of Chinese laborers thereby thrown out of employment, has given the Chinese question a new prominence. As laborers they have proved themselves equal to all requirements, whether in the nicer occupation of the household or the sterner duties of the field, or mine or railroad. They come as the forerunners of thousands and millions who would gladly seek occupation in this country from an over-crowded Empire which now lies almost at our very doors. The experiment has been tried, for which we must thank the National Government, and the South has been taught that it can readily rid itself of negro labor, and with positive advantage. Those indeed who are able to support themselves in political office, and can feed and clothe themselves by carrying torches in midnight processions, and become independent by attending the nightly meetings of the League, may remain and laugh at the laboring Chinaman, but his fellows must be surely and rapidly crowded out.

In speaking of the negotiations now pending by which Charleston capitalists intend to introduce Coolies on the rice and cotton fields of South Carolina, and the contract by a Chicago Company for the transportation of fifty thousand across the Pacific Railroad, the Memphis Avalanche says: "This is not theoretical, but practical immigration. Instead of figures and theories it produces the needed laborer himself, setting him down at our doors. We may as well prepare to face the Celestial, for he will face us, with his pigtail, his docility and industry. There is no longer room for him in California, and he will push across the railway to the new Eldorado of labor. He is the coming man, and we must make up our minds to meet him. He is coming, because the conversion of our blacks into a race of politicians and idlers in making room for him. He is coming, because, for want of labor, our broad fields are uncultivated, and forests occupy soil which should team with cotton and corn. He is coming, because the country is languishing for his industry and thrift. The fact that he one day expects to return to the Empire of more genial suns and more luxuriant flowers, there to die among his kindred, is that much more in his favor. We do not desire him as a permanent addition to our population. He is not desired at all, for that matter; but his readiness to work, and our millions of acres of uncultivated fields, settle this in a practical way. We have work to be performed; he has the muscle and disposition to perform it. Chinese who can cultivate tea, can manage cotton. For that matter, cotton has always been cultivated in the Flowery Kingdom, and it is as a field laborer that the Chinaman excels. Ten years from to-day will see a hundred thousand Chinese in the Mississippi Valley—perhaps twice the number—but we prefer moderate estimates. The ball will soon commence rolling, and it will never stop. As rapidly as SAMBO quits the fields, or becomes so useless that the fields will quit him, the acres pressed by his coarse brogans will be trodden by wooden shoes, and his cry: 'wool' will give way to the pigtail. Make way for the coming man. He has but awaited the hour, and it has arrived."

From the Raleigh Sentinel.

Pen and Ink Sketches of the University of North Carolina, as it Has Been.

DEDICATED TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE, AND TO THE ALUMNI OF THE UNIVERSITY. NO. 13.

DURING THE WAR.

The Senior Class of 1860 numbered 84. More than one fourth of these fell in the war. The whole body of students rushed into military service with such ardor, that of the Freshman class alone but one remained to go through the four years course. He was in feeble health. Seven members of the Faculty joined the army; five of them laid down their lives in the service. Gov. Swain and the remaining Professors resolved to keep the doors of College open as long as half a dozen boys could be kept together. It was a great point with the Governor to do this. He wished to have it to say that at no time since the foundation of the College, had the doors closed. He knew very well that if kept going, its own momentum would carry a great institution on and over the shallows, but that once fairly stopped and shut up, a very great force would have to be employed to set the machinery at successful work, and draw back the tide of retrogression. He drew upon himself considerable odium in some quarters by interfering successfully when the rigid enforcement of the conscript law was about to take away the few that remained, or had come in, by 1863. President Davis agreed with Gov. Swain in his object and said the school must not be ground up. However, in 1864, Secretary Seddon insisted on the enforcement of the law, so that in the spring of 1865, when Sherman's army entered Chapel Hill and took possession there were only ten or twelve boys, principally from the village, still keeping up the name of the College. One of the Professors managed the College bell, and morning and evening prayers were still kept up while the army remained. At the commencement of '65 there was one graduate, Mr. Prout, who had gone through the whole four years course.

CHAPEL HILL IN THE WAR.

How people lived during the war is yet a mystery. Those who call themselves very poor now, spend with all their economy, more in one month than during one year of the war. Those especially were tried who had no more than the decencies of genteel life, who could not get up and not live on turnip greens and corn bread. How did the Faculty at Chapel Hill live, who were struggling to do their duty to the State, and fit such of her sons as remained for the duties of life? They came down cheerfully to the lowest level. I hope I violate none of the proprieties of life when I say that I dined upon a couple of some of them on brown peas and corn bread, and a minute piece of bacon. I heard them say that they would have taken \$30 in specie for the whole of last year's salary. Gov. Swain alone of them all, could have afforded to live better, but he refused to do so, and set an example of cheerful conformity to the general privation. A great assistance to the Faculty was the giving them permission to get their wood from the University woodlands in the neighborhood of Chapel Hill. If they had had to buy their wood, they could not have lived on their salaries. The privations of Chapel Hill, however,

were no greater than those common to the whole South. Her losses in battle were perhaps more severe than of any other village of the same size. Thirty-five of her best young men went out and returned no more.

THE CLOSE OF THE WAR.

Peace found the University and its resources prostrate, as were the private fortunes of most of our citizens. By the repudiation of the war debt and the consequent insolvency of the banks, the entire endowment of the college was annihilated.

Gov. Swain and the Executive Committee of the Board had always managed the finances of the University with great shrewdness, and a strict attention to economy. The salaries of the Professors were never liberal—if we except that of the Bursar, whose fees must have doubled his income, and whenever they were raised it was done most cautiously at the rate of "fifty dollars more." A beggarly proceeding enough. Among the Faculty, there was always a disposition to keep clear of any perquisites of office, so that nothing of the kind should ever be charged upon them. When Dr. Phillips two sons were ready to enter college, it was settled as a precedent that the sons of the Faculty should always pay for their tuition, nor be admitted on any terms that looked like "favor." The consequence of this strict attention to details was that the earnings of the college derived from its tuition fees, enabled its authorities to make such additions to the college buildings, library, apparatus, &c., &c., and such permanent improvements in the grounds as amounted in value to at least one hundred thousand dollars.

Besides this, the University was giving to the State every year the education of twenty young men, the beneficiaries of two Literary Societies each defrayed the expenses of two more. So that even now in her greatest humiliation and prostration the University of North Carolina does not stand before the State in the attitude of a spendthrift and squanderer of public money, but may point proudly to her record. She has carried through her hard and steady Faculty, and she has gratuitously bestowed upon the State an amount equal to the whole endowment sunk in the banks! All this is yet available. It is not lost. The tears shed by my eyes as I write these words. This great sum earned by the University, invested in her magnificent halls and in the gratuitous education of her sons is yet available. Here are the Buildings, and here are the men.

HER BENEFICIARIES.

I do not know of any man who ever graduated at Chapel Hill receiving his education as a free gift from the University is ashamed of the fact. I do not know why any one should be. But for fear there may be some possessed by such false feeling, I will mention no names, but simply content myself with saying that the University has no need to be ashamed of them as a body. Many of them have gone out to do honor to her name and to illustrate in every walk of life the excellence of her training.

A great man said once on the subject of giving: "I have great faith in the power of titles."

The money invested in the education of the beneficiaries of the University may now be paid back with compound interest if these gentlemen, wherever found with means in their hands will come forward in silent phalanx and say: "Here, these and these things I owe to the University, my education, my profession, my station in life, all that I have ever been able to do for the good of others, all that I have ever enjoyed from a love of Truth, and Beauty, and Goodness—my whole career in life, fortune, friends, or fame—I lay it all to the beneficence that held a hand out to me in my first I come now to pay the debt back, and pay it gladly. I give so much, and so much, and so much towards endowing a Professorship, in the name of one of those venerable men who instructed me—or towards founding a scholarship in my own name that shall widen the University's means of doing good henceforth and shall give my name with honor down to coming years."

What a noble spectacle to the whole world would this be. If the BENEFICIARIES of the University of North Carolina be the first to come to the rescue, what a fresh impulse to the great Truth that of the three things that abide and are available when all else is lost, CHARITY is the greatest.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.—Monday, June 21st.—The Court met at the usual hour. Hon. G. W. Brooks, presiding.

J. C. Duckworth was appointed United States Commissioner for Rutherford county.

M. H. vs. Dorsey Davis and Henderson Mulholland. Indictment, Removing Spirits. District Attorney for Government. R. W. York for Defendants. Verdict: guilty.

U. S. vs. Dorsey Davis and Henderson Mulholland. Indictment, Illegal distilling. District Attorney for Government. R. W. York for defendants. Verdict: Not guilty as to Mulholland, and guilty as to Davis. Judgment of Court: Dorsey Davis to be imprisoned in the jail of Chatham county six (6) months, and pay a tax of \$1,000.

SUPREME COURT.—Monday, June 21st.—Court met pursuant to adjournment. All the Justices present.

The oath of office of Attorney General of the State was administered by the Chief Justice to Mr. L. P. Olds.

CASES ARGUED.

State vs. Louest and Pearson, Wilson county. Attorney General for State. No counsel for Defendants.

Ray vs. Leathers, Orange county. Hon. Wm. A. Graham for Plaintiff. No counsel for Defendant.

CASES DISPOSED OF.

Foy vs. Ward, Jones county. Dismissed at Plaintiff's cost.

Jones vs. Gerock, Jones county. Suit abated.

Cox vs. Sidberry, Onslow county. Remanded. Plaintiff to pay cost of this Court. Raleigh Sentinel.

U. S. CIRCUIT COURT, Tuesday, June 22. Court met pursuant to adjournment. Hon. G. W. Brooks presiding.

U. S. vs. David H. Graves, indictment illegal distilling. District Attorney for the government, J. W. Sharpe, for Defendant. Verdict not guilty.

This morning was consumed in calling the civil docket. On to-morrow the civil docket will be called peremptorily. Raleigh Sentinel.

SUPREME COURT.—Tuesday June 22.—Court met at usual hour, all the Judges present.

CASES DISPOSED OF.

Debarie vs. Scott, and Scott vs. Debarie, Craven county. Put off.

Cox vs. Everett, Wayne. Decree by consent. Put off.

CASES ARGUED.

Lee vs. Street, Craven, Houghton, for Defendant. No counsel for Plaintiff.

City of Newbern vs. Jones. Green for Plaintiff. Seymour for Defendant.

Raleigh Sentinel.

From the Raleigh Sentinel, 18th inst. In the Matter of B. F. Moore, Esquire.

In answer to the oft expressed wishes of the public, we give to-day a full report of the argument of Hon. William H. Battle, before the Supreme Court, in the case of B. F. Moore, which has been kindly furnished for the purpose. We hope to lay before our readers the arguments of the other gentlemen who appeared as counsel for the respondents at an early day.

Mr. William H. Battle said that, as one of the counsel for Mr. Moore, he would proceed to read his answer to the rule which had been served upon him.

"In the Supreme Court, June Term, 1899.

In the matter of B. F. Moore, Thomas Bragg and Ed. Graham Haywood.

The several answer of B. F. Moore to the rule herein made by said Court and served upon him.

The respondent protesting that a rule which deprives him, even temporarily, of his privilege as an Attorney at said Court, ought not to have been made in his absence without notice to him and without affidavit or other legal proof of the facts upon which said rule is based, respectfully answers:

That he admits the signing and publishing of the paper called "A solemn protest of the Bar of North Carolina against Judicial interference in political affairs," but insists that the Supreme Court hath no authority in law to make, or jurisdiction to enforce, said rule.

That the publication referred to in said rule is not libellous, and doth not tend to impair the respect due to the authority of said Court.

III. And for further answer this Respondent saith, that said paper was conceived and prepared during the recent political canvass for the Presidency, and its publication deferred until after the close of the canvass to avoid its having the appearance of a partisan document. He admits that his purpose was to express his disapproval of the conduct of individuals occupying high judicial stations, yet, as an act of justice to himself against the charge made in the rule, he not only disavows, in signing and publishing said paper, any intention of committing a contempt of the Supreme Court or of impairing the respect due to its authority, but avers that, he avows his motive to have been to preserve the purity which had ever distinguished the administration of justice by the Courts of this State.

Mr. Battle, after reading the answer, moved to discharge the rule, and based his motion upon two grounds, upon either of which he felt confident, it must be sustained. He said, first, that as the rule had been improperly promulgated, and there was no contempt of the Court, and therefore no case, for which his friend and client could be called upon to answer before the Court.

It was formerly difficult, upon reading the authorities, to ascertain with any certainty, what could be deemed a contempt of Court. In most instances, contempts are committed in open Court, by rule and improper conduct, either by officers of the Court, or by persons attending upon it; but he admitted that there were circumstances under which a contempt might be committed in the absence of the Court. It seemed to him, that for the purpose of settling the difficulties which had arisen in attempting to determine what are contempts in open Court, our Legislature, at last session, laid down and prescribed what, and what only are to be regarded as contempts of the Courts of North Carolina. He referred to the Acts in relation to proceedings in contempt, ratified the 10th day of April, 1893, which was a law at the time when the Protest in question was published. He contended that by the enactment of this Court should be governed in the present case. This act was, as presumed, prepared by the Code Commissioners, and was intended to be the law of North Carolina upon the subject of contempts for the future. And it was eminently proper and right that it should be so, for the liberty of the citizen against the State should be certainly informed as to the law, before he should be held responsible for obedience to it. The counsel then read the first seven specifications in the act for which a person might be punished for a contempt, and showed that neither of them was at all applicable to a case like the present. He said that the only section upon which a question could be raised. That section relates to the "misbehavior of any officer of a court in any official transaction," and cannot apply here, because the signers and publishers of the Protest were not, while doing so, engaged in any official transaction. It was not signed nor published during the session, and did not constitute a contempt of the Court; and as the Court could not deal with it except as a contempt, the rule, as he confidently asked, should be discharged upon this ground.

2. The counsel said that if he were mistaken as to his first ground of defence he then relied upon the second. He argued that, as it is well known that a crime consists of both an act and an intent, there must be, to constitute a criminal offence, an act committed with a criminal intent. Hence, an insane person cannot commit a crime, because he act cannot be accompanied by a guilty will. In the third article of his answer, his friend and client, Mr. Battle, has disavowed, in the most solemn manner, that he intended, by signing and publishing the Protest, any contempt of the Court. On the contrary, he adds, that his motive was to preserve the purity which had ever distinguished the administration of justice by the Court, and as it was only for a contempt of the Court that he should be punished, he had removed the imputation of contempt from what was sought to be treated as such. In support of this position, Mr. Battle referred to the case of the People vs. Few, which occurred in the State of New York, as reported in 2 John, Rep. 289, in which the Court held, that to constitute a contempt of Court, there must be an intention to commit such contempt. He insisted that this case was entitled to the highest respect, because it was decided by one of the ablest Courts which ever sat in this country. At the head of it was James Kent, known throughout the Union as one among its most learned and accomplished jurists. His associates were first, Smith Thompson, afterwards Secretary of the Navy, and then for many years a Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States; secondly, Ambrose Spencer, scarcely inferior as a profound lawyer to Chief Justice Kent, to whose office he afterwards succeeded, and, lastly, Daniel D. Tompkins, who subsequently became Governor of New York and Vice President of the United States. Judge Tompkins did not deliver any opinion, doubtless, because he had been nominated for the office of Governor in opposition to Gov. Lewis, at whose instance it was sought to have the defendant, Few, punished for a contempt. The counsel remarked that for all he knew to the contrary, Governor Lewis was defeated in the election partly in consequence of that prosecution, as the case showed that it grew out of the political contest. Upon these grounds Mr. Battle contended that the Court must come to the conclusion that this case did not fall within any law of North Carolina amounting to a contempt; and if it did, that any act of contempt might have been supposed to exist had been completely negated by the answer of the respondent. He concluded with the emphatic declaration that he did not believe—he could not believe—that the Court would punish, by degrad-

ing from the Bar a man who had been distinguished throughout life for his love of law and order, and who in the late civil troubles had never swerved in his allegiance to the Constitution and the Union.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

Important Decision of Chief Justice Chase.—Negro Bounty Claims; former Slaves Excluded from Bounty.—More Legislation Required.—Death of Mrs. Gen. Spinner and Henry J. Raymond, Esq., of the N. Y. Times.—The American Bank Note Company Printing Fractional Currency.—President Grant—Arrest of the Cuban Junta, &c., &c.

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., June 19, 1899.

A very important decision has just been officially announced by the Treasury Department, from Chief Justice Chase. The Government, in suits through its Marshals against individuals, has ignored the statute of limitations as applied to itself. The Chief Justice decides that the Government has acted decidedly wrong in such cases, and that the statute of limitations is a good plea for individuals against it. Mr. Chase is making some very pertinent and very proper decisions lately. Having freed himself from the thralldom of political partisanship, the Chief Justice is showing himself worthy of the seat of Marshall and Taney.

Hon. E. B. French, Second Auditor of the Treasury, desirous to obtain official instructions as to the proper course of paying the bounties of negro soldiers, referred the matter to the Second Comptroller of the Treasury for his opinion as to the construction of the acts of June 15th and July 26th, 1866, about the bounty question. It was held that a negro soldier was free at the time of his enlistment, unless the contrary appeared on the "rolls" or of record. The Comptroller decided that where a negro admits himself to have been a slave, or it is proven directly by witnesses in his behalf, further action by Congress should be had before settlement can be had in these cases. I am informed that a great number of negro cases are now before this Department for settlement, and have given considerable trouble and anxiety to the examining officers. The "nigger in the fence" continues to create trouble. When shall we get rid of him?

News reached us yesterday morning that the wife of General Spinner had died, ere the General could reach her bedside. Shortly afterwards was announced the sudden death of Henry J. Raymond, of the New York Times. So unexpected an event as the last created a considerable gloom, and was much talked of among newspaper men. As a politician, Mr. Raymond was a decided and ludicrous failure, but as a man and a journalist he was universally esteemed. His fame would be better if his congressional record were blotted out, but it will be forgotten in the brighter and more brilliant career of letters. Free from the weakness so common among journalists, and characterized by a singular courtesy in his associations, we can safely say that American journalism has lost one of its brightest ornaments. It is a pity that certain others who were mentioned had not died at an early age.

The American Bank Note Company is now printing its portion of the fractional currency notes, the five, ten, fifteen, twenty-five and fifty cent denominations. These notes will be sent to the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, where everything being in readiness to go on with the work. They will be ready for distribution in circulation about the twenty-third of this month.

President Grant will probably reach here about Monday night. After staying a few days

